

## Target Ball—Problem Solving

### Advice for Families

- Your child will learn from you as think out loud and share your ideas as you solve everyday problems. Share your ideas, thinking out loud, as you solve everyday problems. Your child will learn from your thinking.
- Model for your child how you solve everyday problems. For example, talk about what you can use to stir the orange juice if you don't have a large spoon. Could you use a long spatula? Let your child suggest solutions to simple problems
- Let your child explore how to put all the pans/bowls/Tupperware into the cupboard so they all fit.
- Children learn best when they find answers for themselves. Give your child time to think about problems. Give your child time to think about problems and solutions. Children learn best when they find answers for themselves.
- As they complete activities, have your child tell you what they are thinking. Ask your child to explain their thinking after they complete a task. Language and thinking work hand in hand.
- Don't worry if they don't get the answer you would have. They are learning how to think through a problem and may have a different way of approaching it.
- Work on social skills development by talking together before, during, and after playing games. Think about:
  1. Figuring out what are the rules we need to follow when playing the game?
  2. Discussing the directions for playing the game.
  3. Deciding who will go first and how will you fairly take turns.
  4. Playing the game according to the rules that were established.
  5. Helping to pick up the game and put it back where it belongs.
  6. Establishing any consequences for positive and negative choices before you start playing.